Page 30, beginning at line 30 through page 31, line 16, replace this paragraph with the following text:

-- Generally, the invention relates to any composition which can be used for the in vitro detection of the presence, in a biological fluid, especially from individuals who have been brought into contact with HIV-$1_{(VAU)}$, or with antibodies against at least one of the HIV-$1_{(VAU)}$ antigens. This composition can be applied to the selective diagnosis of infection by an HIV-1 group O by using diagnostic techniques such as those described in Patent Applications EP 84401834 and EP 87400,151,4. Within the context of the present invention, any constituent comprising antigenic determinants capable of being recognized by antibodies produced against HIV-$1_{(VAU)}$ is used, for example recombinant antigens or peptides or chemically synthesized peptides defined from the sequence of the HIV-$1_{(VAU)}$ envelope. In this regard, the invention relates more particularly to compositions containing at least one of the HIV-$1_{(VAU)}$ virus envelope proteins. There may be mentioned, by way of examples of compositions, those which contain proteins, glycoproteins or peptides from the envelope protein corresponding to the entire 590-620 region of the HIV-$1_{(VAU)}$ gp41 protein or to the parts of this region which are specific for HIV-$1_{(VAU)}$ such as the peptides -TFIQN- (SEQ ID NO:40) or -WGCKNR- (SEQ ID NO:41). --

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Page 37, beginning at line 21, through page 38, line 6, replace this paragraph with the following text:

-- The experimental data collated in the two tables of Figures 20A-C and 21A-C show that:

a) the four sera taken from patients contaminated with the HIV-1 group (or subgroup) O virus are very reactive with the vau peptide;

b) the ten sera supposedly taken from patients contaminated with the HIV-1 group (or subgroup) O virus, among the 19 sera sent out by the Pasteur Institute of Yacoundé, are also highly reactive with this same peptide;

c) the sera (4 samples) taken from individuals contaminated with the HIV-1 subtype B virus (in the acute phase) are not reactive with the vau peptide;

d) the sera taken from asymptomatic blood donors (48 samples tested) are not reactive with the vau peptide; These experimental data, although limited (in view of the paucity of HIV-1 group (or subgroup O) antibody-positive samples), bear witness to the sensitivity and specificity of the peptide selected. --

Page 40, beginning at line 10 through line 16, replace this paragraph with the following text:

-- According to the present invention, the process of detection and discrimination between infection by an HIV-1 group (or subgroup) O retrovirus and an HIV-1 subgroup

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